

GALLERIA RAFFAELLA CORTESE

PRESS RELEASE

NAZGOL ANSARINIA *Paper trail*



Nazgol Ansarinia, *Paper trail*
Silvia Bächli, *Avanti. Diventa.*
Ana Mendieta

via a.stradella 4
via a.stradella 7
via a.stradella 1

Artists Ansarinia and Bächli will be present to the opening thursday, march 10, 7.00 – 9.00 pm.
march 10 | may 11, 2016
tuesday – saturday 10.00 am-1.00 pm | 3.00-7.30 pm and by appointment

Galleria Raffaella Cortese is pleased to present the first solo show in Italy by Iranian artist Nazgol Ansarinia.

Ansarinia examines daily life in her town, Tehran: she analyses and recasts everyday objects and events to draw out their relationships with the contemporary Iranian society, investigating the private sphere and its connection to the wider socio-economic and architectural context.

The exhibition revolves around three ongoing projects by the artist that well represent her practice and recent developments.

Central to her production are the collages from the *Reflections/Refractions* series, which visually explore the complexities of everyday life. Geometric designs, often used to evoke beauty in their order and symmetry, are applied to mirror works to distort the reality of anything they reflect.

For her latest project *Membrane*, on the other hand, the artist takes her own town as a starting point. In recent years Tehran is actually witnessing an intense process of urban transformation, characterized by the replacement of low-rise flats with taller apartment complexes. Although some buildings are destroyed, a layer of the demolished house remains on the shared wall of the adjacent constructions. *Membrane* is the monumental impression of this wall, mapped by the artist through a 3D scanner to recreate it as a three-dimensional model, which keeps a trace of the destroyed building.

A new sculpture from the *Pillars* series will also be on show. The artist looks at the new houses in her town, where neo-classical columns lost their structural function and became the latest display of wealth by the new middle class. Ansarinia ironically uses these columns, by connecting them to some articles from the Iranian Constitution that reflect on the socio-economic issues of everyday life. Nazgol Ansarinia's exhibition is, at the same time, a document and a re-elaboration of Iran's layered and fast-changing society.

Nazgol Ansarinia (Tehran, 1979) lives and works in Tehran. In 2015 she was part of the Iranian pavilion at the 56th Venice Biennale; in 2011 and 2007 she exhibited at the Istanbul Biennale and in 2009 she was awarded the Abraaj Capital Art Prize. Among her group shows: *DUST*, Centre for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw; *Adventure of the Black Square: Abstract Art and Society 1915-2015*, Whitechapel Gallery, London (2015); *Longing Persia, Exchange and reception of art in Persia and Europe in the 17th Century & Contemporary Art from Tehran*, Museum Rietberg, Zurich; *Safar/Voyage*, The Museum of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver (2013); *When Attitudes Became Form Become Attitudes*, Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, Detroit / CCA Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts, San Francisco (2012).

For all press inquiries, please contact Erica Colombo at +39 02 2043555, info@galleriaraffaellacortese.com.

GALLERIA RAFFAELLA CORTESE

via a. stradella 7

via a. stradella 1 via a. stradella 4

20129 milano italia

t +39 02 2043555 f +39 02 29533590

info@galleriaraffaellacortese.com

www.galleriaraffaellacortese.com

nazgol ansarinia

francesco arena

silvia bächli

mirosław bałka

yael bartana

karla black

barbara bloom

alejandro cesarco

keren cytter

michael fliri

jitka hanzlová

roni horn

joan jonas

william e. jones

kimsooja

zoe leonard

anna maria maiolino

marcello maloberti

ana mendieta

helen mirra

mathilde rosier

martha rosler

kiki smith

jessica stockholder

james welling

t. j. wilcox